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# Studies on the African *Colydiidae* (*Coleoptera*). Part II. Genera: *Afrorthocerus* POPE and *Pycnomerus* ERICHSON

[With 43 Text-figures]

**Abstract.** The genus *Afrorthocerus* and African species of *Pycnomerus* are revised and keyed. Twelve new species are described: *Afrorthocerus endroedyi* (S. Africa), *A. thoracicus* (S. Africa), *A. spinicollis* (S. Africa), *A. interruptus* (Zaire), *Pycnomerus abnormis* (S. Africa), *P. anophthalmus* (S. Africa), *P. langelandioides* (Kenya). *P. nova* (Kenya), *P. lineata* (Zaire). *P. ghanensis* (Ghana), *P. ruwenzoricus* (Zaire), *P. planus* (Zaire).

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MHNG: Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle, Genève, Switzerland (Dr I. LÖBL),
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## *Afrorthocerus* POPE

*Afrorthocerus* POPE, 1959: 139. Type species, original designation: *Orthocerus raffrayi* GROUVELLE, 1899 (Natal).

Number of species: 6.

Systematic position. *Afrorthocerus* belongs to the subfamily *Colydiinae*

in having the antennal insertions hidden under the lateral projections of frons, and belongs to the large tribe *Synchitini* (including *Coxelini*) in having the following combination of characters: anterior tibiae without non-articulated external apical spurs; body distinctly setiferous and mentum not produced anteriorly to enclose maxillary palpi (as in *Rhopalocerini*).

Diagnosis. Among African *Synchitini* this genus by the lack of wings and the ventrite I as long as the metasternum is similar to *Mamakius* POPE and *Sallachius* POPE. From both these genera it can be distinguished by narrowly-elongated body (instead of broadly rounded), the undivided antennal club and by a narrow intercoxal process of the ventrite I.

Description. Body elongate-elliptical to strongly elongated (figs. 2, 6), moderately convex; colour variable from yellowish-brown to nearly black; apterous.

Head slightly transverse (fig. 7), devoid of frontoclypeal suture; clypeus straight, flat; frons and vertex usually more or less convex medially and grooved laterally with raised sides, surface tuberculate, tubercles with an apical puncture bearing short, curved, squamiform seta; eyes large, prominent, coarsely facetted, often sparsely setose; temples strongly reduced; antennal grooves by lower margins of eyes practically absent; gular sutures widely separated; antenna 11-segmented, scape and pedicel elongated, segments IV–IX transverse, segments X and XI fused into elongated, not divided antennal club; mandible (fig. 8) bidentate apically, with short hairy prostheca and moderately well developed mola; maxilla (fig. 9) with lacinia narrow prominent apically into a feeble apical spine, galea broad, both densely hairy at apices, palpi 4-segmented, segments II and III subequal, apical segment longest and fusiform; labium (fig. 10) with ligula transversely triangular, labial palpi with apical segment longest and fusiform; labrum well sclerotized at anterior part, short, transverse, anterior margin densely setose.

Prothorax (fig. 5) transverse, sides often denticulate or crenulate, setose, more or less explanate; dorsal surface flattened usually with median sulcus, tuberculate; prosternum with procoxal cavities internally and externally open behind; prosternal process wide, strongly widened behind procoxae with median emargination and denticle at apical margin; sternopleural sutures indistinct.

Meso-metathorax (fig. 11): mesocoxae narrowly separated, their cavities open outwardly; sternal fitting between mesocoxae with a single knob; metasternum as long as the ventrite I, devoid of median impressed line; metacoxae narrowly separated, their cavities open outwardly; metendosternite: fig. 12.

Elytra 1.8–2.8 times longer than wide; each elytron with 5–7 deep rows of strial punctures; alternate intervals more or less carinate; epipleura absent.

Legs (fig. 14) with trochanter short, heteromeroid type; femora normally swollen in middle; tibiae slender without apical spine; tarsi in both sexes 4–4–4, segments simple, segment I as long as two following segments together.

Abdomen (fig. 15) elongated, ventrites freely articulated; ventrite I in midline as long as two following together, its intercoxal process narrowly pointed and rounded, femoral lines absent; each ventrite with shallow transverse groove at anterior part (mycangia ?), also the median part of mesosternum and ventrite I with various systems of pockets; aedeagus of pseudotrilobe type, parameres articulated (fig. 13).

Habitats. All species of *Afrorthocerus* appear to be restricted to the humus and forest litter where bacterial or yeast fermentation is taking place. As nearly all *Synchtini* probably feed on fungi, but their feeding habits are still unknown.

Distribution. Afrotropical: southern part of Central and South Africa (fig. 1).

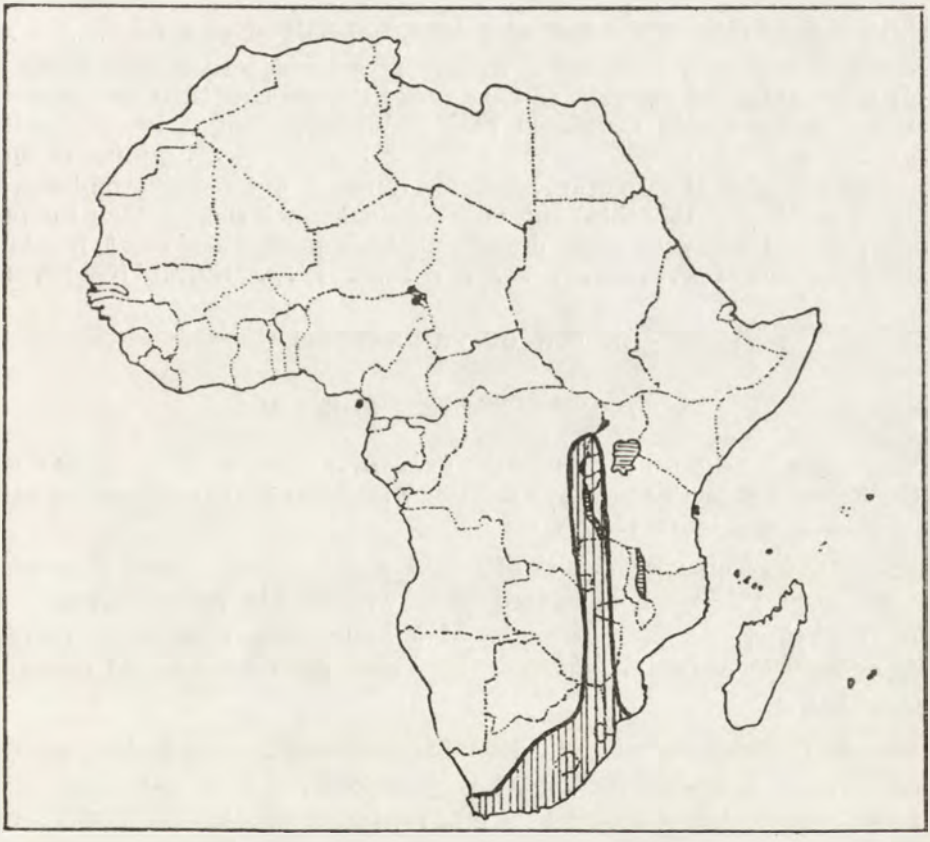

Fig. 1. Distribution of *Afrorthocerus* in Africa.

## KEY TO THE SPECIES

1. Body elongate, elytra 2.5–2.9 times longer than wide . . . . . 2
—. Body short-oval, elytra no more than 2.1 times longer than wide . . . 3
2. Elytra 2.9 times longer than wide; fifth elytral intervals entirely raised; pronotum widest at posterior part (fig. 3) . . . . . *thoracicus* sp. n.
—. Elytra 2.5 times longer than wide; fifth elytral intervals carinate only at apical half of elytron; pronotum parallelsided (fig. 2) . . . . . *endroedyi* sp. n.
3. Third elytral intervals short and elevated apically (fig. 6) . . . . . *interruptus* sp. n.
—. Third elytral intervals normally developed from base to apices of elytra . . . . . 4
4. Fifth elytral intervals developed from nearly base to apices of elytra . . . . . *costatus* Pope.
—. Fifth elytral intervals raised only at apical half of elytra . . . . . 5
5. Anterior angles of pronotum strongly prominent into a long tooth (fig. 4); third antennal segment as long or a little shorter than the preceding; elytral costae feebly developed their pubescence longer, less squamiform . . . . . *spinicollis* sp. n.
—. Anterior angles of pronotum acute or rounded but never prominent into a long tooth (fig. 16); third antennal segment much shorter than the preceding; elytral costae strongly prominent, their pubescence short, recumbent and squamiform . . . . . *raffrayi* (Grouvelle).

## REVIEW OF THE SPECIES

### *Afrorthocerus endroedyi* sp. n.

This species is dedicated to Dr Sebastian Endrödy-Younga of the Transvaal Museum, Pretoria, Republic of South Africa, who collected a large number of specimens of *Afrorthocerus*, including type-series of this species.

Diagnosis. This species is similar to *A. thoracicus* sp. n. and *A. spinicollis* sp. n. in having narrowly-elongated body with feebly raised elytral costae. Unlike *spinicollis*, the anterior angles of pronotum are rounded in *endroedyi*. It differs from *thoracicus* by shorter elytra with the fifth interval raised only at apical half.

Description. Body strongly elongated, flattened; colour testaceous-brown to dark-brown; dorsal surface sparsely pubescent.

Head with eyes nearly as wide as long; anterior margin of clypeus rounded, surface sparsely punctured, sericeous; frons and vertex granulose, granules 1–1.5 diameter apart, each with whitish semirecumbent seta; eyes coarsely facetted, sparsely setose; antenna with segments II, III subequal (fig. 2).

Pronotum a little longer than wide (35:32), flattened at disk, foveate medially, steeply declivous toward lateral margins which are narrowly explana-

te; anterior margins arcuate; anterior angles obtusely rounded; lateral margin nearly parallelsided, finely crenulated, densely setose, setae long, yellowish, semierected; the explanate part of pronotum with shallow emargination before the midpoint of length (in some paratypes not clear); surface of disk granulose, granules larger than those of head, separated by 0.5 diameter, explanate sides smooth.

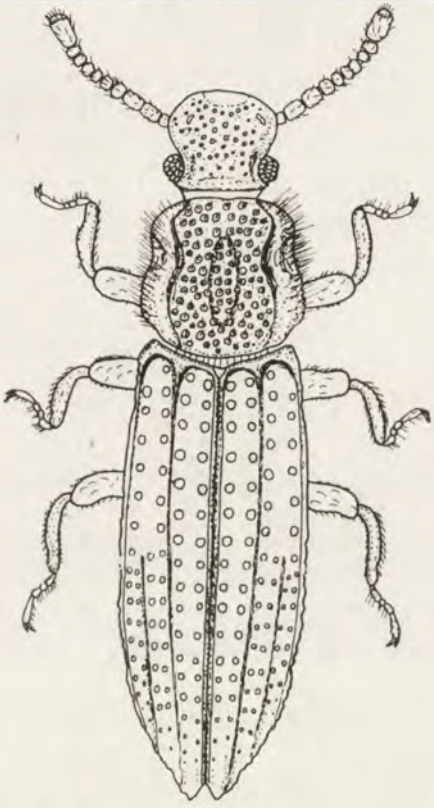

Fig. 2. *Afrorthocerus endroedyi* sp. n., dorsal side.

Elytra 2.5 times longer than wide, widest behind middle; strial punctures deep, a little larger than the largest pronotal granule, separated longitudinally by one diameter; even intervals wide, nearly as wide as diameter of strial puncture; alternate intervals feebly carinate, fifth only at apical half of elytra (fig. 2); each elytron separately acute apically.

Length 3.6 mm.

Holotype: S[outh] Afr[ica], Langeberge Boesmansbos, 33.56S–20.53E, 1050 m, 9. III. 1979, E–Y: 1563, sifted forest litter, leg. ENDRÖDY-YOUNGA (TMP).

Paratypes: same data as holotype (16, TMP; 1, IZPAN; 4, SAS).

*Afrorthocerus thoracicus* **sp. n.**

Diagnosis. *A. thoracicus* differs from all other *Afrorthocerus* by the combination of a strongly elongate body with elytra 2.9 times longer than wide, and unusual shape of pronotum (fig. 3).

Description. Body strongly elongated, flattened, brown.

Head with eyes nearly as long as wide; anterior clypeal margin, straight, surface finely micropunctured; frons and vertex nearly flat, faintly granulose, granules more prominent in lateral portions than in middle, separation variable; eyes relatively small; antenna with segment III twice as long as II (fig. 3).

Pronotum longer than wide (42 : 30), convex; disk without median groove, sides not explanate; anterior margin arcuate; anterior angles obtusely rounded; sides without lateral denticles, deeply emarginate before the mid-point of pronotal length, pronotum widest at posterior angles; surface irregularly granulose, groups of largest granules are near the anterior and posterior angles (fig. 3); pronotal base arcuately rounded.

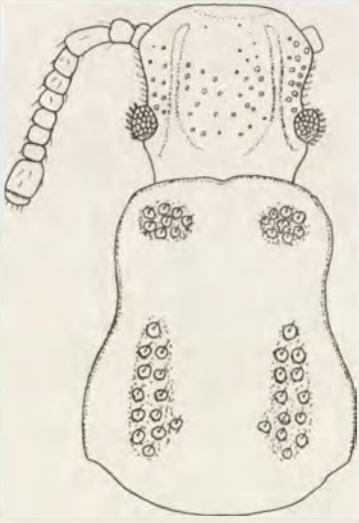

Fig. 3. *Afrorthocerus thoracicus* sp. n., head and pronotum.

Elytra 2.9 times longer than wide with only four rows of strial punctures between suture and humeral angle; sutural interval flat, intervals III, V entirely carinate, sparsely but rather strongly tuberculate; strial punctures large, separated longitudinally by less than 0.25 diameter of puncture; even intervals very narrow, width 0.2–0.25 of diameter of strial puncture.

Length 4 mm.

Holotype: [South Africa] ZA. 43, Table Mountain, Doline Bats Cave, XII. 1960, humus, leg. N. Leleup (TMP).

*Afrorthocerus spinicollis* **sp. n.**

Diagnosis. Like *endroedyi* sp. n., and *raffrayi* (GROUVELLE) and unlike other species, the fifth elytral interval is raised only at apical half of elytra in *spinicollis*. The strongly prominent anterior angles of pronotum and much shorter elytra, separate *spinicollis* from *endroedyi*. Unlike *raffrayi*, the anterior angles of pronotum are strongly prominent and the third antennal segment is as long as preceding in *spinicollis*.

Description. Body elongate, slightly convex; colour variable from reddish-brown to brownish-black.

Head including eyes a little wider than long, flat; transverse groove at vertex and sublateral grooves near eyes well developed; anterior clypeal margin straight, surface dull, feebly reticulated; frons and vertex granulose, separation of granules variable, each granule with whitish seta; eyes relatively small, shortly setose; antenna with segment III as long or a little shorter than II (fig. 4).

Fig. 4. *Afrorthocerus spinicollis* sp. n., anterior part of body.

Pronotum as long as wide, widest near posterior angles, but sides nearly parallel; anterior margin straight to arcuate, shallowly sinuate near strongly prominent anterior angles (fig. 4); lateral sides narrowly explanate, margins denticulate, denticles with long, curved, whitish setae; disk depressed with shallow median elongate groove, steeply declivous toward lateral margins, surface tuberculate, tubercles large, usually twice as large as those on head

and separated by less than one diameter; explanate sides and declivity smooth apart of row of tubercles bordering lower edges of foveae.

Elytra 2.1–2.2 times longer than wide, widest slightly behind middle; strial punctures deep, as large or slightly larger than the pronotal tubercles, separated longitudinally by one diameter; even intervals as wide as 0.8 diameter of strial puncture; alternate intervals faintly carinate, the fifth raised only at apical half of elytron.

Length 2.6–3 mm.

Holotype: S[outh] Afr[ica], S[outh] Cape Mt. Helderfontein, 1150 m, 33.56S – 20.52E, 8. III. 1979; E–Y: 1561, sifted fynbos, leg. ENDRÖDY-YOUNGA (TMP).

Paratypes: same data as holotype (9,TMP; 1,IZPAN; 4,SAS).

### *Afrorthocerus costatus* POPE

*Afrorthocerus costatus* POPE, 1959: 140, Holotype: Natal, Howick's Falls (University Lund).

Diagnosis. Among species with short elytra, *A. costatus* is similar to *interruptus* sp. n and *raffrayi* (GROUVELLE). The entirely developed carina on the fifth elytral interval, separates *costatus* from *raffrayi* and *interruptus*.

Description. See POPE, 1959: 140, figs. 1–2.

Variation. The populations from Ruwenzori and Zaire differ from the

Fig. 5. *Afrorthocerus costatus* POPE, prothorax, ventral view.

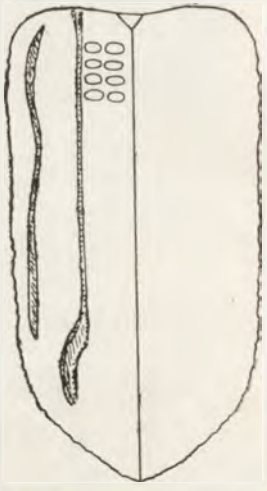

Fig. 6. *Afrorthocerus interruptus* sp. n., elytra.

population from South Africa in the following respects: Length 1.9–2.9 mm; body more convex and sides of pronotum from narrowly to widely explanate; head and pronotum with granules of various size and separation; pronotal

sides from nearly smooth to serrate; setae on pronotum and elytral intervals variable from narrow to squamiform.

Material examined: + 100 specimens from MHNG, MRAC, TMP, SAS.

South Africa: North Transvaal, Southansbg Entebeni; Transkei Dwesa forest, all leg. ENDRÖDY-YOUNGA in sifted forest litter and compost. (SAS; IZPAN; TMP).

Zaire: Ruwenzori – Parc National Albert, 2000 m; Volcan Sabingo, 2180 m; Parc National Virunga; Dorsale de Lubero, Mt. Muleke, Mt. Lubwe; Itombwe, 2300 m (MRAC; SAS).

Zimbabwe Rhodesia: Umtali Melsetter, 1700 m, R. MUSSARD (MHNG).

Rwanda: Kayove, 2100 m, VERNER (MHNG).

### *Afrorthocerus interruptus* sp. n.

Diagnosis. The shortened and strongly elevated apically third elytral intervals are characteristic of *interruptus* (fig. 6).

Description. Body elongate-elliptical, convex; castaneous to brownish-black but antennal club except apex constantly black.

Head with eyes slightly wider than long; anterior clypeal margin straight medially, rounded laterally, surface sericeous, micropunctured; frons and vertex granulose, granules as large as facets of eyes, each with whitish, squamiform, subrecumbent seta; antenna with segment III as long as II, antennal club elongate as long as four previous segments together.

Pronotum nearly as long as wide (32 : 33), widest at middle, depressed on disk, shallowly foveate medially and steeply declivous toward lateral margins which are narrowly explanate; anterior margin arcuate, scarcely sinuate toward obtuse anterior angles; lateral margins arcuate, feebly denticulate; disk and borders granulose, granules a little larger than those of head, each with squamiform semirecumbent seta.

Elytra 1.8–1.9 times longer than wide, widest behind middle, together rounded apically; elytral punctures coarse, twice as large as pronotal tubercles, separated longitudinally by less than 0.5 diameter of puncture; even intervals very narrow – 0.3–0.5 diameter of strial puncture; alternate intervals raised: third from base to within a short distance of apical borders, this interval at apical part strongly elevated and curved (fig. 6), fifth interval carinate from just behind basal border to a point of beginning of strong elevation of preceding one, more or less interrupted medially, seventh interval entirely carinate.

Length 3.1–3.5 mm.

Holotype: [Zaire] Congo: P[arc] N[ational] A[lbert], Massif Ruwenzori Mahungu, riv. Katsambu, 3300 m, Ericetum, 18. VII. 1963, R. P. M.-J. CÉLIS 2132–33 (MRAC).

Paratypes: same data as holotype (1,MRAC; 1,SAS); same locality,

but Mahungu piste Mutwanga, 3220 m, Ericetum, P. R. M.-J. Célis 2140 (1,MRAC); Congo Belge: P[arc] N[ational] A[lbert], Expl. sect. Nord Massif Ruwenzori, Mahungu 3280 m, VI. 1953, J. M. Vrydagh, 405fa (1,MRAC)

Remark: There is an specimen of *Afrorthocerus* in the present collection, assigned to *A. interruptus*, but with some reservation. It differs from the holotype and paratypes in that the third elytral interval is only slightly elevated apically and the fifth interval is completely and widely interrupted. A series of examples would enable this species to be identified with more certainty. The data on the specimen are:

[Zaire] Kivu: Itombwe, 2700 m, vall. Muongo Ruiss. Biot. N°127A (humus forêt mont. avec bambous), I. 1960, N. Leleup (MRAC).

### *Afrorthocerus raffrayi* (Grouvelle)

*Orthocerus Raffrayi* Grouvelle, 1899: 155. Syntypes: Cape of Good Hope (coll. A. Grouvelle, MNHN, Paris). – In *Afrorthocerus*: Pope, 1959: 139, 140.

Diagnosis. This species is similar to *A. costatus* Pope and *A. spinicollis* sp. n., see these species for differences.

Description. Body elongate-oval, convex, shortly pubescent; colour variable from yellowish-brown to brownish-black; surface of head, pronotum and carinae with setae strongly squamiform, recumbent.

Head transverse, with eyes twice as wide as long, slightly convex, dull; surface granulose, granules variable in size and separation, but usually 1.5 diameter apart; antenna with segment II longer and wider than III.

Pronotum slightly transverse (26 : 30), depressed on disk, shallowly foveate medially, steeply declivous toward lateral margins which are rather widely explanate; anterior margin arcuate medially, sinuate toward prominent and acute anterior angles (fig. 16); lateral margins arcuate (maximum width slightly behind middle), smooth to denticulate, each denticle with curved seta; disk granulose, granules larger than those of head, 0.5 diameter of granule apart; lateral margins and declivous area smooth to irregularly tuberculate.

Elytra 1.9–2.1 times longer than wide, widest slightly behind middle, together rounded apically; strial punctures coarse, as large as largest pronotal, granule, separated longitudinally by less than half diameter of puncture; even intervals as wide as 0.8–1 diameter of strial puncture; alternate intervals faintly to strongly carinate, III from basal borders to within very short distance of apical borders, V carinate in apical half of elytra only, VII carinate from humeral angle to apex, all carinae tuberculate.

Length 3.5–2.8 mm.

Material examined: + 80 specimens. (TMP, IZPAN, SAS).

South Africa: South Cape Harkeville Forest, 34. 04S – 23. 10E, 14. XII. 1976, E–Y: 1312 (*Podocarpus* forest litter); Prov. Tsitsikama Witersb. 33. 58S – 24. 02E, 10. XII, 1978, E–Y: 1529 (sifted forest litter); Knysna Forest, 33.56S – 23. 08E, E–Y: 271, 19. XI, 1973 (sifted litter), all leg. Endrödy-Younga.

## *Pycnomerus* ERICHSON

*Pycnomerus* ERICHSON, 1842, Arch. Naturg., (8) I: 214. Type species, designed by DAJOZ, 1977: *Ips terebrans* OLIVIER, 1750 (Europe). – ERICHSON, 1845: 290; DAJOZ, 1977: 175, 1980: 146 (review and key to the Malgassy species).

*Penthelispa* PASCOE, 1860: 111. Type species, by monotypy: *Penthelispa porosa* PASCOE, 1860 (Brazil). – DAJOZ, 1977: 178.

*Pycnomeroplesius* GANGLBAUER, 1899: 885. Type species, by monotypy: *Pycnomerus inspectus* JAQUELIN DU VAL, 1857 (Europe).

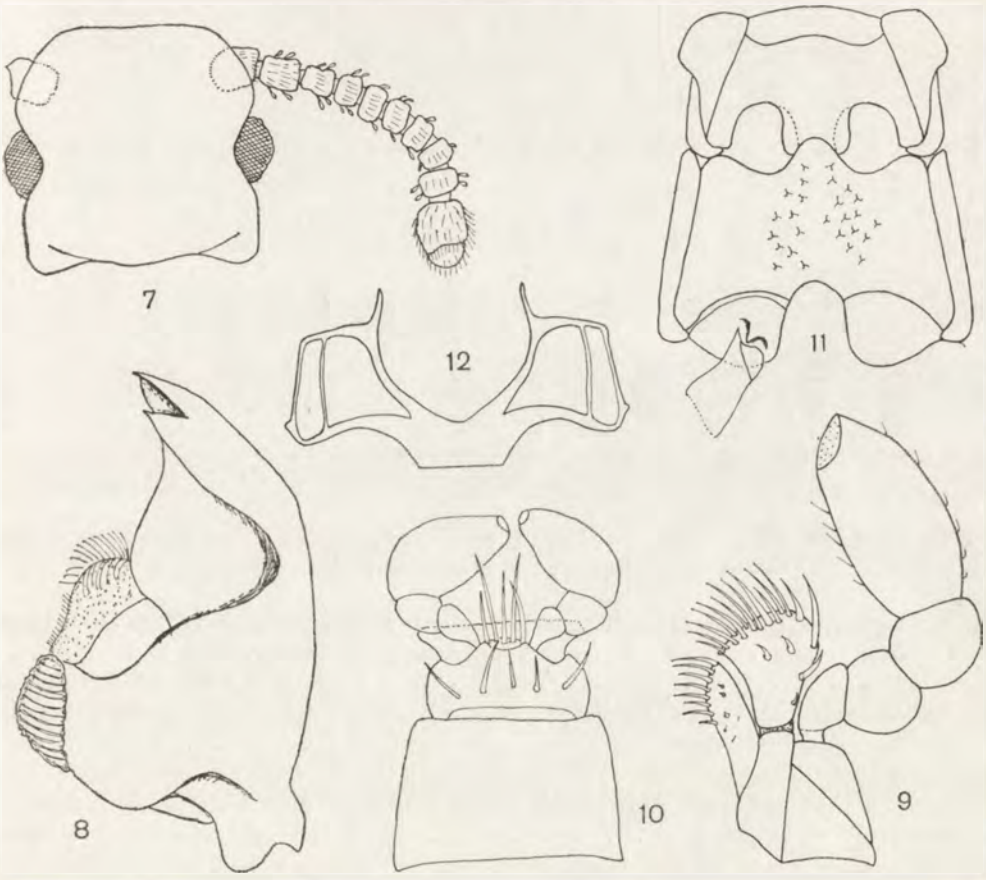


Fig. 7–12. *Afrorthocerus raffrayi* (GROUV.). 7 – head, dorsal view; 8 – left mandible; 9 – maxilla; 10 – labium; 11 – meso-metathorax, ventral view; 12 – metendosternite.

Number of species: +70, in Africa – 12.

Systematic position. *Pycnomerus* ER. with *Dechomus* JAQUELIN DU VAL and *Pycnomerodes* BROUN belongs to a subfamily *Colydiinae* by their antennal insertions hidden under the lateral projections of frons, and belongs to tribe *Pycnomerini* by its tibiae with non-articulated spine or tooth at outer apical

angle (fig. 25), the antennal insertions not separated from mandibular articulation by a carina and by the widely separated pro- and metacoxae. These genera can be distinguished in the following key:

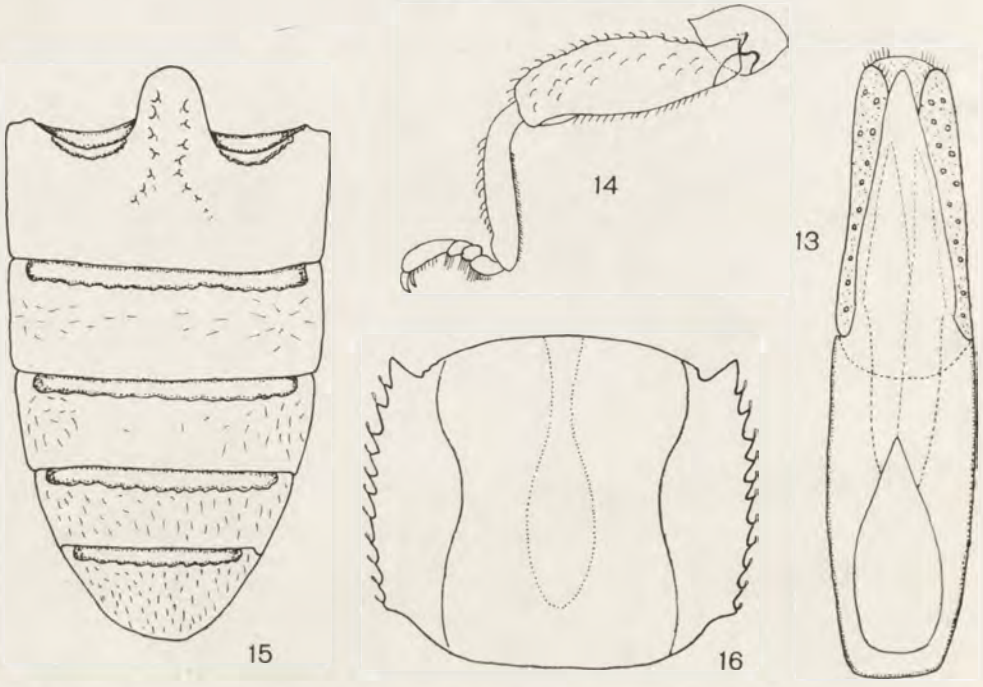


Fig. 13–16. *Afrorthocerus raffrayi* (Grouv.). 13 – aedeagus; 14 – hind leg; 15 – abdomen, ventral view; 16 – pronotum, dorsal view.

1. Antenna 8-segmented; pronotum with deep sublateral grooves at base (Iran, Caucasus, Turkey, south Europe – one species) . . . . . *Dechomus* Jaquelin du Val.
–. Antenna 10 or 11-segmented; pronotum sometimes with shallow median or two admedian sulci . . . . . 2
2. Eyes almost completely divided horizontally by frontal extensions; body clearly and densely pubescent (New Zealand, Juan Fernandez Isl. – 3 species) . . . . . *Pycnomerodes* Broun.
–. Eyes, if present, entire; body shiny, sparsely pubescent (all continents of the World – more than 70 species) . . . . . *Pycnomerus* Erichson

Diagnosis. See the key above.

Description. General appearance elongate-oval, convex, surface shiny, sparsely pubescent, or completely smooth; wings present or absent.

Head (fig. 28) slightly transverse, devoid of frontoclypeal suture; anterior clypeal margins straight or emarginate medially; frons usually with well developed sublateral cavities and grooves (figs. 26, 40), sides near antennal inser-

tions raised and in some species of the *africanus* group continued as a carinae near eyes; gular sutures on ventral side widely separated and antennal grooves by lower margins of eyes short or completely absent; antenna 11-segmented with club composed of two segments, often undivided (in *langelandioides* only 10-segmented); eyes usually large and coarsely facetted, but in some species reduced to a few coarse facets and very rarely absent (*abnormis* sp. n. and *anophthalmus* sp. n.). Mandible heavily sclerotized with two apical teeth, well developed mola (fig. 29) and reduced prostheca; maxilla with lacinia narrow and elongated with long apical spine (fig. 30), galea broad with apex densely haily, palpi 4-segmented with segments II, III subequal, last elongated, truncated apically; labium (fig. 34) with 3-segmented palpi, its segment I narrow and elongated; labrum (fig. 31) well sclerotized at anterior part, transverse, surface setose and transversely grooved.

Prothorax elongated to slightly transverse, sides usually smooth; dorsal surface with one or two elongate sulci at median part and sublateral sulci near lateral borders; procoxal cavities widely closed behind; prosternal process widened behind procoxae and truncated apically (fig. 18); hypomera in *P. anophthalmus* with well developed antennal grooves at anterior angles.

Meso-metathorax (fig. 33): mesocoxae narrowly separated, their cavities closed outwardly; metasternum elongated, much longer than the ventrite I with median impressed line of various length; hindcoxae widely separated, their cavities closed outwardly; metendosternite: fig. 33; wing (fig. 35) with reduced venation, 3 anal veins and without subcubital fleck.

Elytra elongated, 1.8–2.5 times as long as wide in apical portions usually declivous (fig. 39); each elytron with 10 deep rows of strial punctures, intervals convex, sometimes carinate.

Legs with trochanter short, of heteromeroid type; tibiae widened apically with non-articulated spine at outer apical angle (fig. 25); tarsi 4–4–4 in both sexes, segment simple, last segment as long as three preceding together.

Abdomen (fig. 36): ventrites freely articulated, ventrite I as long as II, its intercoxal process straight or arcuate never prominent into a lobe, ventrites II-V subequal, aedeagus of pseudotrilobe type: fig. 37.

Habitats. Probably all species of *Pycnomerus* feed on fungi. They are usually found in rotten logs, often with various ants (*Formicidae*), and in humus or forest litter.

Distribution. World (Africa — mainly West, Central and South Africa).

## KEY TO THE AFRICAN SPECIES

1. Eyes absent . . . . . 2
—. Eyes present . . . . . 3
2. Pronotum parallelsided, sides bordered by a narrow sulcus (fig. 17), hind

angles rectangular; length 4.5 mm . . . . . *abnormis* sp. n.

—. Pronotum widest at anterior one-third, more strongly narrowing basad than anterad (fig. 19), sides bordered by a wide sulcus, hind angles prominent and acute; length less than 3.6 mm . . . . *anophthalmus* sp. n.

3. Antennal club truncated apically, one-segmented (fig. 20) . . . . . 4

—. Antennal club rounded apically, 2-segmented (figs. 22, 28) . . . . . 5

4. Pronotum transverse (3 : 4), widest at anterior part, narrowing basad (fig. 20) . . . . . *langelandioides* sp. n.

—. Pronotum as long as wide, sides arcuate (fig. 21) . . . . . *nova* sp. n.

5. Large species, length more than 5.7 mm; pronotum with deep median sulcus, densely punctured, punctures contiguous (figs. 26, 27); antennae stout, club distinctly 2-segmented (fig. 32); carinae near eyes present . . . . . 6

—. Smaller species, length less than 3.8 mm; pronotum without or with two admedian sulci, sparsely punctured; antennae slender, club undivided; carinae near eyes usually absent . . . . . 7

6. All intervals of elytra reached base of elytron (fig. 26) . . . . . *fairmairei* Grouvelle.

—. Elytral intervals II, IV and VI shortened (fig. 27) . . . . . *africanus* Grouvelle.

7. Elytral striae deeply grooved, strial punctures invisible . . . . . *lineatus* sp. n.

—. Elytral striae feebly grooved, strial punctures well visible . . . . . 8

8. Protibia with apical tooth large and prominent (fig. 25) . . . . . *ghanensis* sp. n.

—. Protibia with apical tooth very small to nearly absent (fig. 43) . . . . 9

9. Eyes reduced and consists of a few facets (fig. 38) . . . . . 10

—. Eyes large, fully developed (fig. 41) . . . . . 11

10. Apex of elytra deeply declivous (fig. 39); body smaller . . . . . *basilewskyi* Pope

—. Apex of elytra only slightly declivous; body larger . . . . . *ruwenzoricus* sp. n.

11. Eyes very large and strongly prominent (fig. 41); pronotum with sublateral sulcus wide and emarginate medially . . . . . *lefevrei* Pope.

—. Eyes smaller and only slightly prominent; pronotum with sublateral sulcus narrow and not emarginate medially . . . . . *planus* sp. n.

## REVIEW OF THE SPECIES

### *Pycnomerus abnormis* sp. n.

Diagnosis. The completely absent eyes of *abnormis* are unique in *Pycnomerus*.

Description. Body large, elongated, slightly convex; colour brownish-black; eyes and wings absent.

Head: anterior clypeal margin straight, angles rounded, surface finely punctured, spaces densely reticulate; frons with well developed and deep sublateral impressions and raised sides; frons and vertex densely and coarsely punctured, size and separation of punctures variable, punctures usually subcontiguous; antenna with 2-segmented club.

Pronotum elongate (51 : 45), with sides nearly parallel and only slightly narrowed basad and anterad; anterior margin widely and scarcely emarginate, unbordered; anterior angles acute, prominent; lateral margins bordered by a narrow sulcus, without crenulation or denticles; pronotal base arcuate, with large cavities near posterior angles, these cavities not clearly connected trans-

Fig. 17. *Pycnomerus abnormis* sp. n., head and pronotum.

versely (fig. 17); pronotal disk coarsely punctured, punctures a little larger than those of head, 1–3 diameters apart, spaces finely reticulate, shiny.

Elytra twice as long as wide, parallelsided at basal two-thirds, then narrowed apically and together rounded; humeral angle strongly produced but rounded; elytral punctures elongate, 2–2.5 × as long as wide, striae not grooved on disk; intervals II, IV, VI and VIII not connected with basal border of elytron; apical declivity of elytra absent; intervals III, V, VII cojoined then joined with interval II; all intervals slightly convex, impunctate.

Length 4.3 mm.

Holotype: S[outh] Afr[ica], S[outh] Cape, Keurboomstrand, 34.00S — 23.27E, 15. XII. [19]76, E–Y: 1317, sifted forest litter, leg. ENDRÖDY-YOUNGA (TMP).

### *Pycnomerus anophthalmus* sp. n.

Diagnosis. By the lack of eyes and wings *anophthalmus* resembles *abnormis* described above. It differs from that species in having much smaller and

more ovate body, the pronotal sides distinctly converged basad and wide sulcus on each side of pronotum.

Description. Body elongate-oval, castaneous to nearly black, feebly shiny; eyes and wings absent.

Head short, transverse; anterior clypeal margin straight, surface sparsely punctured; head impressed laterally above antennal insertions and strongly raised sides, punctured, punctures variable in size and separation; antenna: fig. 18.

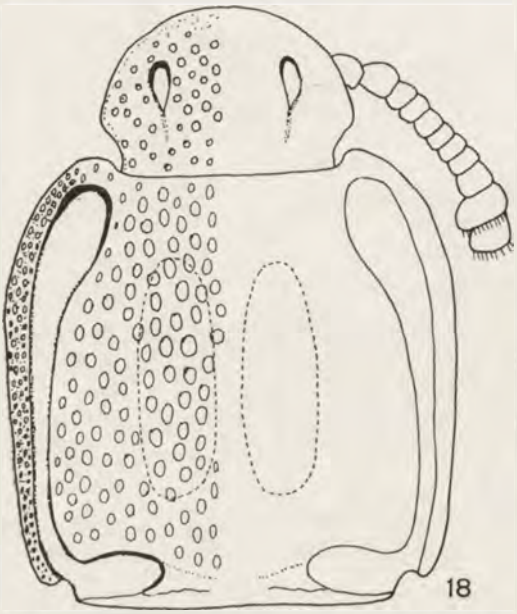



Fig. 18–19. *Pycnomerus anophthalmus* sp. n. 18 – head and pronotum; 19 – prothorax ventral view.

Pronotum slightly elongate, usually 1.1–1.2 times longer than wide, widest, at anterior one-third, narrowed basad; disk with paramedian, shallow impressions, coarsely punctured, punctures a little larger than those of head, 0.3–1.5 diameter apart, spaces smooth; sublateral sulcus wide and impunctate (fig. 18); subbasal impressions large and not clearly connected; anterior and posterior pronotal angles prominent, anterior rounded, posterior strongly acute.

Scutellum absent, elytra coalesced at suture.

Elytra 2.1 times longer than wide, widest at middle, together rounded apically; striae shallowly grooved, strial punctures not very clear, rounded or slightly elongated, longitudinally separated by 2–3 diameters, each puncture with short, yellowish seta; intervals convex, punctured, sparsely pubescent; apical declivity absent; intervals I and II developed from base to apex, not joined.

Length 2.8–3.4 mm.

Holotype: [South Africa] C[ape] P[rovince], Pt. St. Johns, distr. Ingogo Forest Reserve, ZA 82 humus, XII. 1961. N. LELEUP (MRAC).

Paratypes: same locality and collector (5,TMP); same data, but ZA 84, Nxolveni Forest (2,TMP; 2,SAS; 1,IZPAN).

Variation. In larger specimens the pronotal sides are widely bordered by a sulcus and prosternal hypomera has a well developed antennal grooves at anterior angles (fig. 19). But in smaller specimens the pronotal sides are narrowly bordered, the posterior angles of pronotum less prominent and antennal grooves on a ventral side of prothorax shallow and somewhat reduced.

*Pycnomerus langelandioides* **sp. n.**

Diagnosis. The strongly reduced eyes and only 10-segmented antennae are characteristic of *langelandioides*.

Description. Body short-oval, convex, testaceous-brown, dull.

Head transverse; anterior clypeal margin rounded, surface densely reticulate; frons with deep sublateral impressions and raised sides, surface densely and coarsely punctured, punctures subcontiguous; eyes reduced to a few coarse facets; antenna 10-segmented with 1-segmented club (fig. 20).

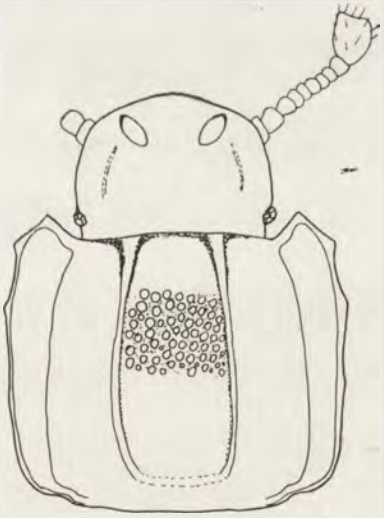

Fig. 20. *Pycnomerus langelandioides* sp. n., head and pronotum.

Pronotum transverse (35 : 42) widest at anterior third; anterior margin straight; aterior angles slightly prominent, acute; lateral sides rather widely explanate, not clearly bordered by sulcus, finely dentate; posterior angles rectangular; surface of pronotum with two admedian raised carinae and median

elongate depression (fig. 20), densely and coarsely punctured, punctures as large as those of head, subcontiguous, spaces densely reticulate, dull.

Scutellum very small, triangular.

Wings absent; elytra longer than wide (75 : 47), parallelsided at basal two-thirds, from that point strongly narrowed apically then together rounded; humeral angle rounded; elytral striae deeply grooved, strial punctures not clear, somewhat irregular, elongated, separated longitudinally by less than one diameter; intervals as wide as elytral striae, faintly carinate; apical declivity absent; interval III developed from base to apex.

Ventral side entirely covered by a coarse punctures, dull.

Length 2.9–3.1 mm.

Holotype: Kenya, Mt. Kenya Tana River, Sankuri, 1600 m, 18. X. [19]77, leg. Mahnert PERRET (MHNG).

Paratypes: same data as holotype (1,MHNG; 1,SAS); Nyandarua, 10 km SE Njabini, 2550 m 9. XI 1977, Mahnert PERRET (1,MHNG; 1,SAS); data as holotype, but: 2750 m, terre sous bambou, 23. XI. [19]74 (1,MHNG).

### *Pycnomerus nova* sp. n.

Diagnosis. This species is very similar to *P. langelandioides* sp. n. described above, and differs in the following respects:

Head with eyes larger and coarsely facetted.

Pronotum longer than wide (40 : 37), widest at middle with arcuate and very narrowly explanate sides, smooth; pronotal disk with median shallow depression, admedian carinae absent: fig. 21.

Elytra (80 : 51) more oval, widest at middle.

Length 3.1 mm.

Holotype: Kenya, Mt. Elgon National Parc, 2700 m, 15. XI. [19]74, leg. MAHNERT (MHNG).

### *Pycnomerus lineatus* sp. n.

Diagnosis. In its habitus *lineatus* resembles *lefevrei* POPE, *ghanensis* sp. n. and *planus* sp. n. From all these species it is clearly separated by very narrowly bordered pronotum with surface coarsely – and densely punctured, and especially by a deeply grooved, without clear strial punctures elytral striae.

Description. Body elongate, slightly convex, brownish-black, shiny, very sparsely pubescent.

Head: anterior clypeal margin straight, surface coarsely punctured; frons with deep sublateral impressions and feebly raised sides; frons sparsely, vertex densely punctured, punctures 2–4 times larger than those on clypeus, 0.8–1 diameter apart, spaces smooth, shiny; antenna: fig. 22.

Pronotum longer than wide, widest behind anterior angles, only slightly narrowed basad; anterior margin straight; anterior angles rounded, unproduced; lateral margins very narrowly bordered by line, with 3–5 lateral denticles, the largest near anterior angle (fig. 22); pronotal base arcuate, not clearly bordered; disk without clearly developed median or admedian depressions, only shallowly concave, regularly and very coarsely punctured, punctures elongated, subcontiguous, 2–4 times larger than those of head.

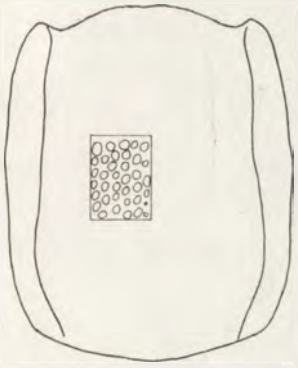

Fig. 21. *Pycnomerus nova* sp. n., pronotum.

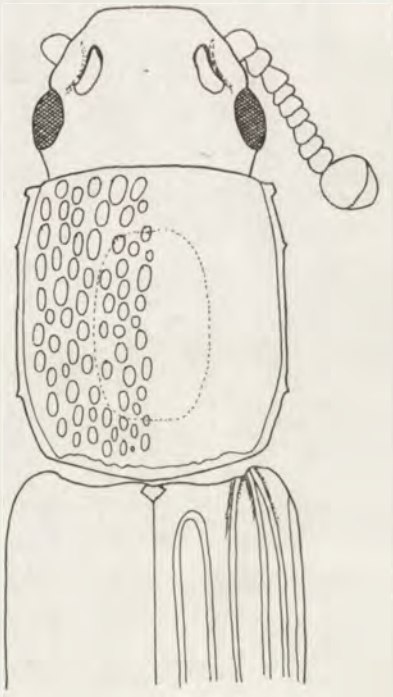

Fig. 22. *Pycnomerus lineatus* sp. n., anterior part of body.

Scutellum pentagonal, transverse, smooth.

Elytra 2.1 times longer than wide, widest at middle, separately rounded apically; humeral angles slightly prominent, rounded; elytral striae deeply grooved; strial punctures on disk invisible, in lateral striae slightly visible, small, rounded, separated longitudinally by 4–5 diameters; intervals 4–5 times wider than elytral striae, flat, impunctate; subapical declivity small, confined to cojoined intervals I, II.

Length 3 mm.

Holotype: Zaire, Face N. Ruwenzori, Kilindera 2750 m, VII/VIII. [19]74, dans bois morts, leg. R. P. M. Jejune (MRAC).

*Pycnomerus ghanensis* **sp. n.**

Diagnosis. The small, flattened body with a combination of broadly dilated protibiae with large tooth (fig. 25) and with carinae near eyes separate *P. ghanensis* from similar species such as *lefevrei* POPE, *lineatus* sp. n., *planus* sp. n.

Description. Body narrowly elongate, small, flattened, colour castaneous with head nearly black, feebly shiny.

Head transverse; anterior clypeal margin straight, surface slightly convex, punctured, punctures 0.5–1 diameter apart; frons sparsely punctured, grooved laterally with raised sides, sides raised near eyes to a form of carinae; eyes large, fully developed and coarsely facetted; vertical punctures larger than frontal, a little larger than the facets of eyes, 0.8–2 diameters apart; antenna: fig. 24.

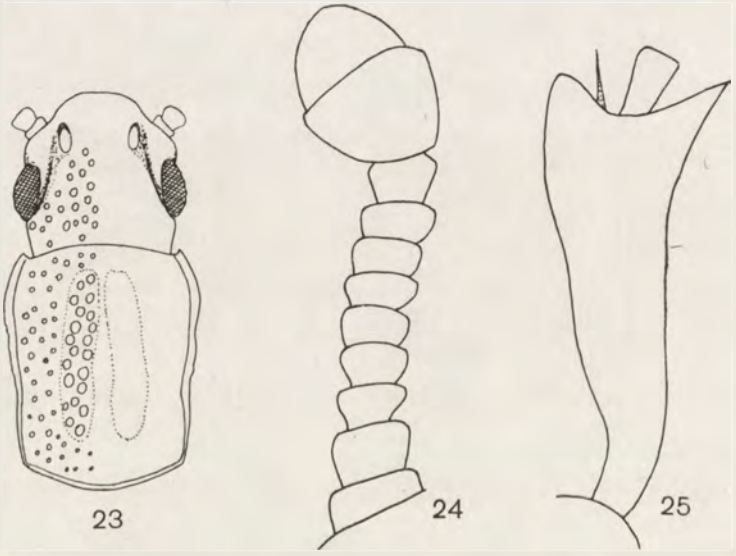


Fig. 23–25. *Pycnomerus ghanensis* sp. n. 23 – head and pronotum; 24 – antenna; 25 – protibia.

Pronotum trapezoidal, 0.9 times as long as wide, widest a little behind, anterior angles which are acute and prominent (fig. 23); anterior margin arcuate, unbordered; lateral margins very narrowly bordered by a line; sides without lateral crenulation or denticles; disk with a pair admedian, shallow impressions, principally formed by densely situated punctures; pronotal base entirely bordered.

Scutellum elongated, pentagonal, micropunctured.

Elytra twice as long as wide, nearly parallelsided, flat; elytral striae feebly grooved; strial punctures elongate, separated longitudinally by less than half

of longitudinal diameter; intervals twice as wide as elytral striae, slightly convex sparsely micropunctured; subapical excavation and declivity absent.

Legs: protibia strongly dilated toward apex, with large tooth (fig. 25).

Length 2.7 mm.

Holotype: Ghana, Western reg., Pretsea, 4.55N – 1.52W, 30 m, 8. II. 1966, no. 129, oil palm fruits, leg. ENDRÖDY-YOUNGA (TMB).

Paratype: same data as holotype (SAS).

## *Pycnomerus fairmairei* GROUVELLE

*Pycnomerus Fairmairei* GROUVELLE, 1899: 156. Lectotype, designed by DAJOZ, 189: Madagascar Est, baie d'Antongil (Mus. Nat, Hist. Natu. Paris). Paralectotype: South Africa – Natal. – DAJOZ, 1980: 147.

Diagnosis. In its habitus and structure of head *fairmairei* resembles *africanus* GROUVELLE. It differs from that species by the elytral intervals developed from base to apex of elytron, the angulate sides of pronotum and by the pronotal punctures comparatively twice smaller than in *africanus*.

Description. Body large, elongate, convex, brown, shiny.

Head transverse; anterior clypeal margin straight; frons with very deep sublateral impressions, sides raised and continues to a form of carinae near eyes (fig. 26); eyes large, coarsely facetted; antenna as in *africanus*, stout, segments IV–IX strongly transverse, club 2-segmented.

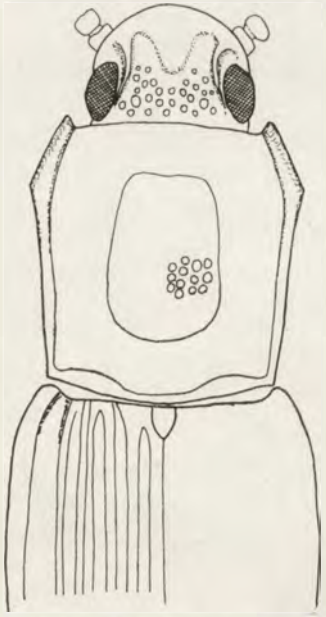

Fig. 26. *Pycnomerus fairmairei* GROUV., anterior part of body.

Pronotum as long as wide; anterior angles prominent, somewhat acute; lateral sides angled behind anterior angles, widely and entirely bordered; pronotal base narrowly, entirely, bordered; disk with shallow median depression, coarsely punctured, punctures subcontiguous, as large as those of head, spaces shiny.

Scutellum relatively small, circular.

Elytra twice as long as wide, parallelsided at basal two-thirds, narrowed toward apex, then separately rounded; all intervals developed from base to apex, somewhat carinate, twice as wide as elytral striae; striae slightly grooved, strial punctures deep and elongate, irregular in shape, separated longitudinally by less than 0.5 of longitudinal diameter; apical declivity shallow and very limited.

Length 3.5–4.5 mm.

Material examined: 15 specimens.
Madagascar: Périnet, Tananarive, leg. Y. Gomy (MHNG; SAS).

Note. Apart of the unusual (Dajoz, 1980) paralectotype this species is known only from Madagascar.

### *Pycnomerus africanus* Grouvelle

*Pycnomerus africanus* Grouvelle, 1899: 156. Syntypes: Natal, coll. C. H. Martin (Mus. Nat. Hist. Nat. Paris). – Pope, 1959: 138, 146.

Diagnosis. This species is very similar to *P. fairmairei* Grouvelle redescribed above, and belongs to the same group of species mainly distributed on Madagascar, and Comoro Islands, and characterized by a large, convex body, stout antennae and head with carinae near eyes. *P. africanus* can be distinguished from *fairmairei* by the following respects:

Pronotum never angulate behind anterior angles (fig. 27); lateral margins narrowly bordered and more or less sinuate at middle; disk with well developed median depression, often with two not clearly connected admedian depressions, convex and punctures twice as large as in *fairmairei*.

Elytra with the second interval shortened anterad and never connected with anterior margin.

Material examined: 30 specimens (TMP, UP, SAS).

South Africa – South Cape, Knysna Forest, E–Y: 272, 19. XI, 1973, sifted *Podocarpus* litter; Garden of Eden, E–Y: 1310, sifted litter; Transkei Dwesa Forest, E–Y: 1697, 11. XII. 1976; Keurboonstrand, E–Y: 1317, 15. XII. 1976, all leg. Endrödy-Younga (TMP, SAS); King Williams Town D., Pirie Forest, Z. A. 88, XII. 1961, N. Leleup (TMP); Katberg Forest, ZA. 88, humus, I. 1961, N. Leleup (TMP); Capland, George, leg. Dr. Brauns (TMP, SAS); Sreetvadersbos, 30. VI, 1958, leg. J. H. Grobler (UP).

### *Pycnomerus basilewskyi* Pope

*Pycnomerus basilewskyi* Pope, 1962: 436. Holotype: Tanganyika Terr. Mt. Oldeani (MRAC).

Diagnosis. The small, strongly reduced eyes and the large apical cavities of elytra are diagnostic.

Description. See POPE, 1962: 436. As a supplement to the good original description, the drawings of head with pronotum (fig. 38) and of the dorsal side of elytra (fig. 38) are given, both made from the holotype.

Material examined: + 50 specimens (MRAC, SAS, IZ PAN).
Tanganyika Terr. Mt. Oldeani, 2350–2500 m, (2, MRAC, holotype and paratype);

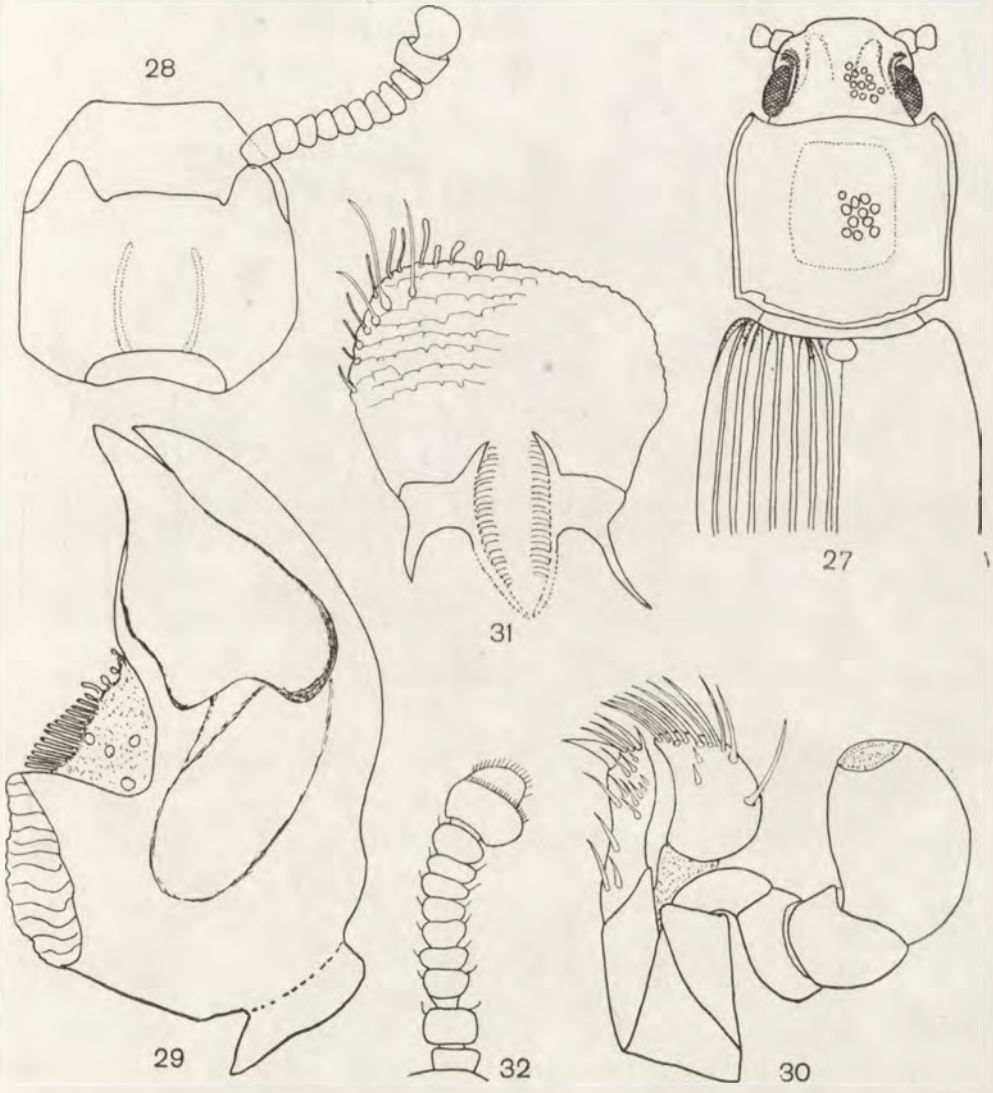


Fig. 27–32. *Pycnomerus africanus* GROUV. 27 – anterior part of body; 28 – head, ventral view; 29 – mandible; 30 – maxilla; 31 – labrum; 32 – antenna.

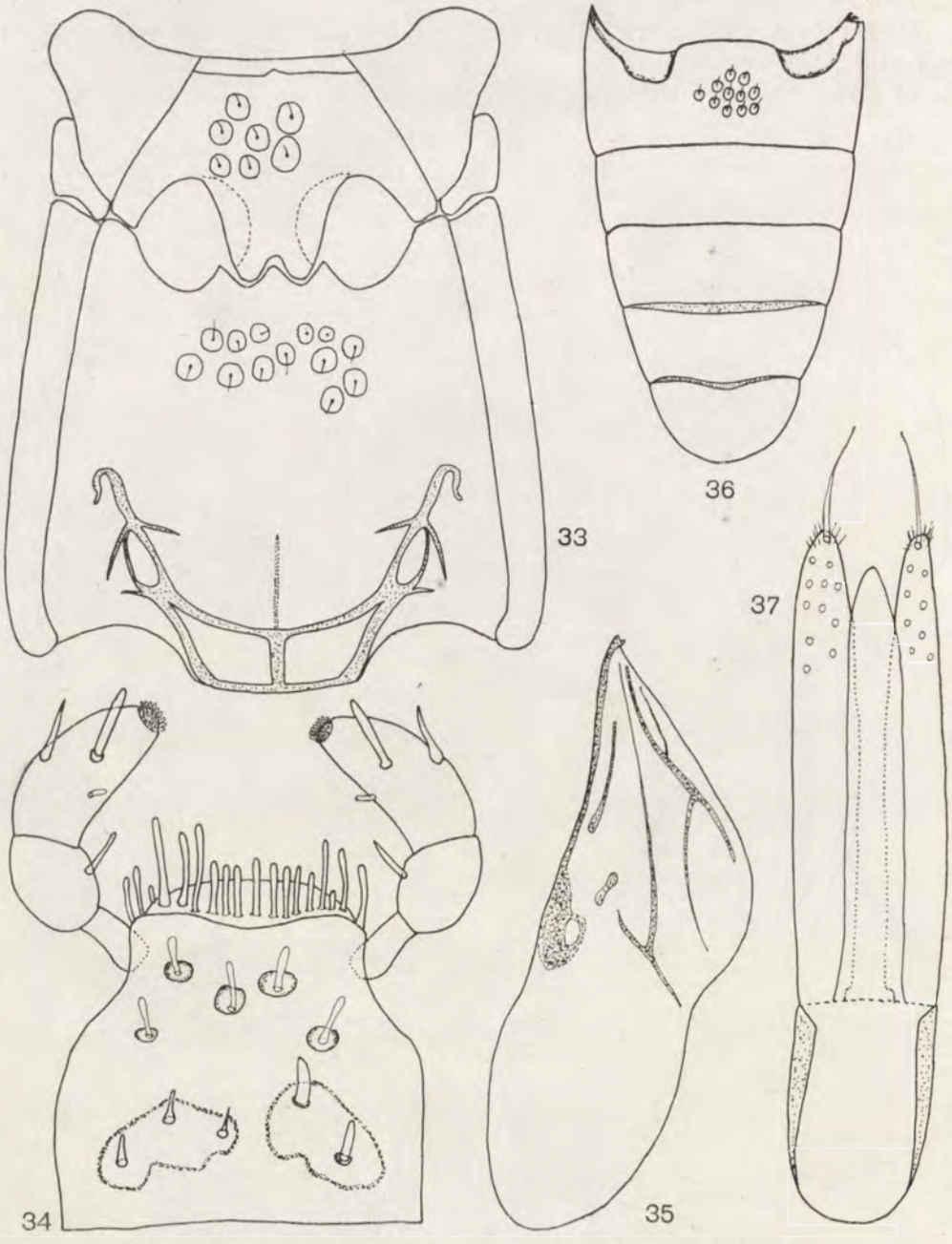


Fig. 33–37. *Pycnomerus africanus* Grouv. 33 – meso-metathorax, dorsal view; 34 – labium; 35 – wing; 36 – abdomen; 37 – aedeagus.

Zaire: Massif Ruwenzori, Mahungu, Parc National Albert, 3500 m; Kivu: Itombwe, Mt. Lubwe terr. Lubero, 2300 m (MRAC, SAS).
Rwanda: Gisovu (MHNG).

Habitats. All specimens have been collected in the mountain forests, 2300–2900 m, often with bamboo (*Bambousa*) in forest litter or in rotten logs.

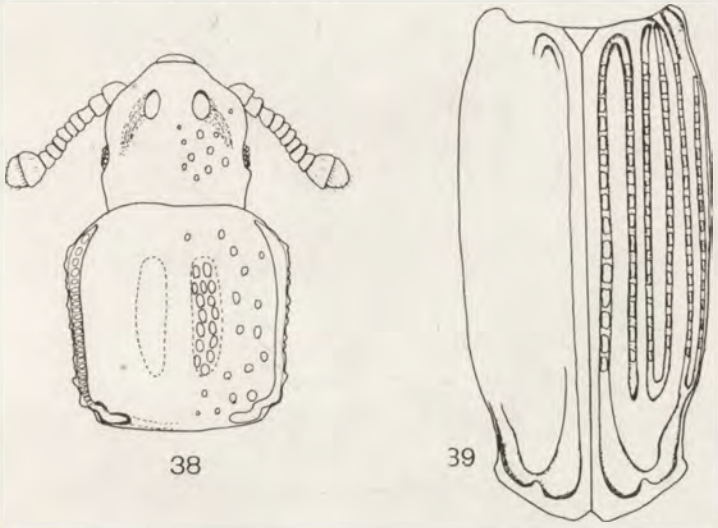


Fig. 38–39. *Pycnomerus basilewskyi* POPE. 38 – head and pronotum; 39 – elytra.

*Pycnomerus ruwenzoricus* **sp. n.**

Diagnosis. *P. ruwenzoricus* by its reduced eyes, rather sparsely punctured pronotum with two admedian longitudinal depressions and by a yellowish to brown body is similar to *basilewskyi* POPE. It differs from that species in having larger and more convex body, only slightly declivous elytral apex and a different form of pronotum.

Description. Body yellowish-brown to brown, convex, shiny, sparsely setose.

Head transverse; anterior clypeal margin straight, surface flat, impunctate; antenna: fig. 40; eyes small, reduced to a few coarse facets, in some species facets not distinctly visible; frons with deep, round sublateral cavities before eyes, grooved laterally near antennal insertions; vertex flat, finely and sparsely punctured.

Pronotum as long as wide, widest at anterior one-third; anterior angles acute, slightly prominent; lateral margins very narrowly bordered by sulci which are connected with transverse sulcus at base; disk with very shallow

admedian longitudinal impressions, punctured, punctures, as large as on vertex, separation variable.

Scutellum transverse, triangular, impunctate.

Elytra 1.9 times as long as wide, widest at middle; humeral angles slightly prominent, rounded; elytral striae shallowly grooved; strial punctures round, separated longitudinally by 2–3 diameters; elytral intervals 2 times as wide as striae, flat, finely microsculptured, micropunctured apically, intervals II, IV, VI cojoined apically; apical declivity shallow and limited, between striae I and VI.

Length 2.8–3 mm.

Holotype: [Zaire], P[arc] N[ational] A[lbert], Massif Ruwenzori, Mahungu piste Kyonda, 3400 m, 22. VII. 1963, R. P. M.-J. Célis 2138, Ericetum (MRAC).

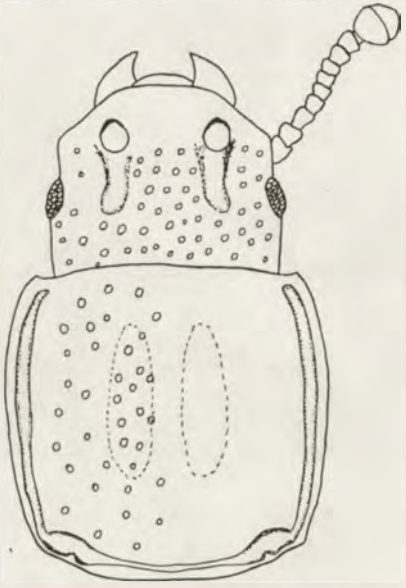

Fig. 40. *Pycnomerus ruwenzoricus* sp. n., head and pronotum.

Paratypes, all from Ruwenzori: Mahungu, camp des porteurs, 3300 m, Ericetum, 22. VII. 1963, J. Célis, 2139 (1, SAS); Langa-Ruanoli, Biowe, 3000 m, bambous, 8. I. 1963, J. Célis, 2120 (1, MRAC); Mahungu, piste Mutwanga, 3220 m, Ericetum, 23. VII. 1963, J. Célis, 2140 (1,MRAC); Rive di Katsambu, Mahungu 3220, Ericetum, 20. VII. 1963, J. Célis 2136 (1,MRAC); Riv. Ruanoli, 3200 m, aff. dr Semliki, 22. X. 1957, Vs 213, P. Vanschuytbroeck (7,MRAC; 3,SAS); Lac Dominique, 3400 m, 24. X. 1957, Vs. 215 (2, MRAC; 1,SAS); Kalonge et Mahungu, alt. 2100 m, 6. I. 1953, J. M. Vrydagh 4051$^{A}$ (1,SAS).

### *Pycnomerus lefevrei* Pope

*Pycnomerus lefevrei* Pope, 1954: 113. Holotype: Zaire, Mulungu (MRAC).

Diagnosis. The large and prominent eyes, the faintly denticulate sides of pronotum and very characteristic, emarginate medially sublateral sulcus of pronotum are characters which separate *lefevrei* from *planus* sp. n. and *ghanensis* sp. n.

Description. See POPE, 1954: 113. As a supplement to a good original description, the drawing of head with pronotum (fig. 41) made from the holotype is given.

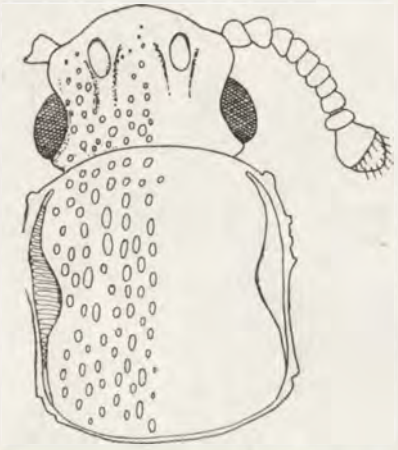

Fig. 41. *Pycnomerus lefevrei* POPE, head and pronotum.

Material examined: 3 specimens.
Zaire: Mulungu (1,MRAC – holotype); Kundelungu Hill (1,MRAC – paratype).
Congo Brazzaville: Bouenza, 30. XI. 1963, sifted in float, leg. ENDRÖDY-YOUNGA 1,TMB).

Remark. The specimen from Congo Brazzaville coressponds perfectly with the holotype, but the sublateral impressions of pronotum are narrower and only slightly emarginate medially, also the pronotal disk has two slightly visible and coarsely punctured admedian depressions.

### *Pycnomerus planus* sp. n.

Diagnosis. This species is similar to *lefevrei* POPE by its large eyes and pronotum without admedian depressions. It can be separated from *lefevrei* by comparatively smaller eyes, only faintly denticulate sides of pronotum and by the sublateral sulcus of pronotum narrow and not emarginate medially.

Description. Body castaneous to nearly black, flattened, shiny.

Head transverse; anterior clypeal margin straight, surface flat, with setigerous punctures, 0.3–0.5 diameters apart; antenna: fig. 42; frons deeply grooved near antennal insertions with two sublateral impressions; eyes fully developed,

coarsely facetted; frons and vertex punctured, punctures of various size and separation.

Pronotum slightly longer than wide (38 : 35), widest at anterior one-third, arcuately narrowed toward base; anterior angles unproduced; anterior margin arcuate, unbordered; sides arcuate, faintly denticulate, very narrowly bordered; subbasal impressions very small, not connected, base unbordered; disk without admedian depressions, regularly punctured, punctures as large as those of head, one diameter apart, spaces smooth, impunctate.

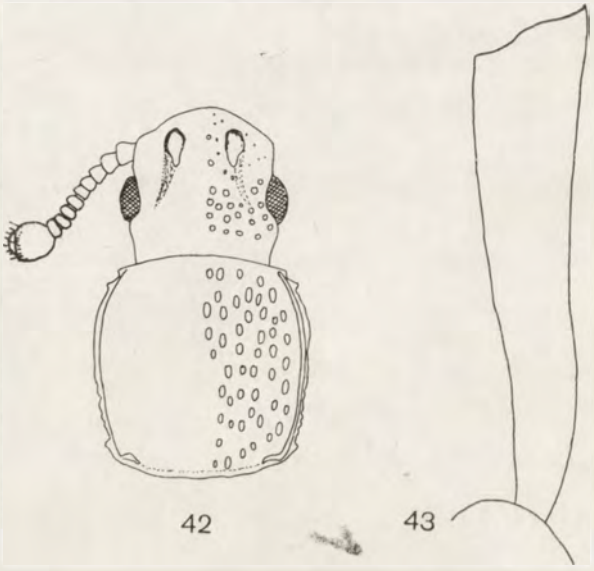


Fig. 42–43. *Pycnomerus planus* sp. n. 42 – head and pronotum; 43 – protibia.

Scutellum transverse, triangular, impunctate.

Elytra 2.1 times longer than wide, widest at middle; elytral striae slightly grooved; strial punctures elongate, separated longitudinally by 0.5–1 diameter; intervals about 2–3 times as wide as stria, slightly convex, impunctate; each elytron with shallow apical declivity formed from the sutural stria which continues around apical margin and joints confluent apical parts of striae III and V.

Legs: protibia: fig. 43.

Length 2.6–2.8 mm.

Holotype: Zaire, P[arc] N[ational] A[lbert], Secteur Tshiaberinu som. Tshiaberimu, 19. VIII. 1963, 3117 m, bruyères, mousses, R. P. M.-J. Célis 21 50 (MRAC).

Paratypes: same data as holotype (1,SAS); Kivu Itombwe, 2700 m, vall. Ruiss Muongo, Biot. N° 127A, humus forêt mont., avec bambous, I. 1960, N. Leleup (MRAC); Kivu, Terr. Kalehe, Soment Kahuzi, 3330 m, 23. VII. [19]51, récolté sous des pierres, N. Leleup (1,MRAC).

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STRESZCZENIE

[Tytuł: Badania nad afrykańskimi *Colydiidae* (*Coleoptera*). Część II. Rodzaje: *Afrorthocerus* POPE i *Pycnomerus* ERICHSON]

W drugiej części monograficznych opracowań *Colydiidae* Afryki autor omawia rodzaje *Afrorthocerus* POPE i *Pycnomerus* ERICHSON, podając nowoczesną charakterystykę obu taksonów rodzajowych w oparciu o cechy zewnętrzne i wewnętrzne. W części szczegółowej autor omawia 6 gatunków z rodzaju *Afrorthocerus* (4 nowe dla nauki) i 12 gatunków *Pycnomerus* (8 nowych dla nauki), podając dokładne opisy, rysunki i klucze do gatunków z obszaru Afryki.

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РЕЗЮМЕ

[Заглавие: Исследования по африканским *Colydiidae* (*Coleoptera*). Часть II. Роды *Afrorthocerus* Pope и *Pycnomerus* Erichson]

Во второй части монографических обработок *Colydiidae* Африки автор обсуждает роды *Afrorthocerus* Pope и *Pycnomerus* Erichson приводя современную характеристику обоих таксонов на основании внешних и внутренних признаков. Автор рассматривает 6 видов из рода *Afrorthocerus* (4 из них являются новыми для науки) и 12 видов *Pycnomerus* (8 видов новых для науки), дает подробные описания, рисунки и определители видов распространенных на территории Африки.

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